

classes of structures and equipment, owned and leased.

PART 368—PRESERVATION OF RECORDS OF HOLDING COMPANIES AND SERVICE COMPANIES

Sec.

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AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 16451–16463.

SOURCE: Order 684, 71 FR 65262, Nov. 7, 2006, unless otherwise note.

§ 368.1 Promulgation.

This part is prescribed and promulgated as the regulations governing the preservation of records by any holding company and by any service company within a holding company system subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. §§ 16451 *et seq.*).

§ 368.2 General instructions.

(a) *Scope of this part.* (1) The regulations in this part apply to all books of account and other records prepared, maintained or held by any agent or employee on behalf of the company. The specification in the schedule in § 368.3 of a record related to a type of transaction includes all documents and correspondence, not redundant or duplicative of other records retained, needed to explain or verify the transaction.

(2) Company means a service company or a holding company as defined in § 367.1 of this chapter. Public utilities, licensees, and natural gas companies must continue to use parts 125 and 225 of this chapter.

(3) Any company subject to this regulation, that, as agent, operator, lessor or otherwise, maintains or has possession of any records relating to the operation, property or obligations of a public utility, licensee, or natural gas company, as defined in the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 824 *et seq.*), the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 717 *et seq.*), or the laws of any state within which the public utility, licensee, or natural gas company operates, must comply with the laws or regulations as to

record retention and destruction which would apply to the records if they were records of the public utility, licensee, or natural gas company as codified in parts 125 and 225 of this chapter.

(4) The regulations in this part should not be construed as excusing compliance with other lawful requirements of any other governmental body, Federal or State, prescribing other record keeping requirements or for preservation of records longer than those prescribed in this part.

(5) To the extent that any Commission regulations may provide for a different record retention period, the records must be retained for the longer of the retention periods.

(6) Records, other than those listed in the schedule, may be destroyed at the option of the company. However, records that are used in lieu of those listed must be preserved for the periods prescribed for the records used for substantially similar purposes. Additionally, retention of records pertaining to added services, functions, plant, and other similar service, the establishment of which cannot be presently foreseen, must conform to the principles embodied in this section.

(7) Notwithstanding the provisions of the records retention schedule in this section, the Commission may, upon the request of the company, authorize a shorter period of retention for any record listed in the schedule upon a showing by the company that preservation of the record for a longer period is not necessary or appropriate, in the public interest or for the protection of investors or consumers.

(b) *Designation of supervisory official.* Each company subject to these record retention regulations must designate one or more officials to supervise the preservation or authorized destruction of its records.

(c) *Protection and storage of records.* The company must provide reasonable protection from damage by fire, flood, and other hazards for records required by these record retention regulations to be preserved and, in the selection of storage space, safeguard such records from unnecessary exposure to deterioration from excessive humidity, dryness, or lack of proper ventilation.